UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION,

Plaintiff,

v.

MARK J. VARACCHI and SENTINEL GROWTH FUND MANAGEMENT, LLC, *Defendants*,

and

RADAR ALTERNATIVE FUND LP and RADAR ALTERNATIVE MASTER FUND SPC, Relief Defendants. No. 3:17-cv-155 (VAB)

RULING AND ORDER ON MOTION FOR PROFESSIONAL FEES AND EXPENSES

On October 20, 2019, Jed Horwitt, Esq., the Court-appointed Receiver in this action brought by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), filed a revised tenth motion for professional fees and expenses in this action. Tenth Interim Application for Professional Fees and Expenses Incurred by the Receiver and His Professionals, ECF No. 147 (Nov. 8, 2019). Mr. Horwitt moves for professional fees and expenses incurred between July 1, 2019 and September 30, 2019. *Id.* at 3. Mr. Horwitt shared his application with counsel for the SEC, and the SEC stated that it has no objections to the application. *Id.* No objection has been filed.

In support of this application, Mr. Horwitt, his counsel, Zeisler & Zeisler, P.C ("Z&Z") and his accountant and financial advisor, Verdolino & Lowey, P.C. ("V&L"), submitted a summary of professional fees and expenses requested, prepared in accordance with the Billing Instructions for Receivers in Civil Actions Commenced by the SEC and the Receivership Order. *Id.* at 4. The Receiver has agreed to public service discounts of their typical hourly fees for services primarily provided when serving in his capacity as Receiver, and he and his counsel

have voluntarily agreed to apply those rates to all of the Receiver's time during this period, including for services that were primarily legal in nature. *Id.* at 7.

Mr. Horwitt and his counsel Z&Z spent 583.5 hours working on this matter during the relevant period, and that they seek an award of \$173,177.80 for professional services and \$27,951.85 for reimbursement of expenses. *Id.* at 5. Mr. Horwitt's accountant and financial advisor V&L spent 24.10 hours working on this matter during the relevant period, and seeks an award of \$6,495.60 for professional services and \$105.94 reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses. *Id.* at 5. The Receiver, Z&Z, and V&L all acknowledge that their fee compensation is subject to a twenty-percent holdback, under SEC Guidelines and the Receivership Order. *Id.*

Mr. Horwitt and his special counsel to provide transactional services, Karp & Langerman, P.C. ("K&L") spent 8.75 hours working on this matter during the relevant period, and they seek an allowance of compensation of services in the amount of \$2,843.75. *Id.* The Reciever requests that K&L not be subject to a twenty percent (20%) holdback considering the relatively *de minimus* amount incurred and anticipated to be incurred in the future to complete the work requested by the Receiver to be performed by K&L. *Id.*

This Court has reviewed the Application and supporting documentation and concludes that the requested amounts of (1) \$173,177.80 for professional services and \$27,951.85 for reimbursement of expenses to Mr. Horwitt and Z&Z, (2) \$6,495.60 for professional services to V&L, and (3) \$2,843.75 for transactional services to K&L, are fair and reasonable.

Accordingly, the Receiver's Tenth Application for Professional Fees and Expenses is **GRANTED**.

SO ORDERED at Bridgeport, Connecticut, this 22nd day of November, 2019.

_____/s/ Victor A. Bolden
Victor A. Bolden
United States District Judge